

What's New in the City



City of Natchitoches



KNB named 'Affiliate of the Month'

May 1, 2012

Keep Natchitoches Beautiful (KNB) has been named May's "Affiliate of the Month" by Keep Louisiana Beautiful (KLB), the state's nonprofit organization dedicated to litter prevention, waste reduction and community improvement. KNB was selected as Affiliate of the Month in recognition of its extensive programming, long-time community beautification efforts and strong partnerships with other organizations.

KNB has implemented many effective programs throughout its 12 years as an affiliate. One main project is a program funded by a KLB grant that provided educational programming to local elementary schools.

KNB has partnered with Northwestern State University Theatre Department to create a live, improvisational performance of "The Wartville Wizard."



formance of "The Wartville Wizard."

KNB projects involve numerous cleanups in the community by partnering with area churches, Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Club, Northwestern State University and neighborhood groups. Keep Natchitoches

Beautiful has partnered with Northwestern State University on "GreeNSU," a program focused on combating litter, promoting education and planting and maintaining trees.

"Keep Natchitoches Beautiful provides leadership and guidance as one of the oldest Louisiana affiliates," Leigh Harris, Executive Director of KLB, said. "The organization has achieved such success with its numerous and varied programs, and is truly a model among Keep America Beautiful communities across the state and the nation. We are so proud of their accomplishments and excited to announce it as KLB's May Affiliate of the Month."

Volume XII, Issue 5

Inside this issue:

Bicentennial program May 19	2
Summer programs for youth	3
Green Market hosts free classes	4

Did you know?

- The Natchitoches Arts Council is seeking artists for the 2012 Christmas Festival Poster. The theme for this year's poster is "Christmas in Natchitoches." The artist's sketch or painting must be 18 inches wide and 24 inches tall. The winning entry will become the exclusive property of the Natchitoches Arts Council. The deadline for entering the contest is Friday, June 22. The winner will receive a \$600 commission. For more information, please call the Office of Community Development at 357-3839.

City Animal Shelter open house May 16

The public is invited to attend an open house to celebrate the opening of the Furever Friends Garden, located at the City of Natchitoches Animal Shelter.

The open house will be held on Wednesday, May 16 at 4:30 p.m. at the City of Natchitoches Animal Shelter, located at 450 Fairgrounds Road. The public is invited to attend.

Furever Friends Garden is



a newly constructed area on the grounds of the Natchitoches Animal Shelter, which is designated for potential adopters to meet and greet animals

prior to adoption.

The creation of the garden was developed by Northwestern State University student Shelby McCain, a Natchitoches native who has a special love for animals. The garden was made possible through labor provided by the City of Natchitoches and funding from organizations and private donors, including

See Animal Shelter, page 2

Louisiana Bicentennial program to be held in Natchitoches May 19

Natchitoches will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the state of Louisiana with a public ceremony on Saturday, May 19.

The ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. on May 19 on the downtown riverbank stage. The public is invited to attend.

The program will celebrate the 200th anniversary of Louisiana's statehood in 1812 with live music, history

on Louisiana's statehood and a flag raising ceremony involving the French Flag, Louisiana flag and an early American flag.

Immediately following the program, the public is invited to attend a reception held at the Natchitoches Genealogy Library, located on the corner of Second and Church Streets in the old courthouse.

Animal Shelter, cont'd. From page 1



the St. Denis Garden Club and the Animal Call-To-Action Scholarship, created by Northwestern State graduate Jennifer Walsh.

The open house will also serve as a time to meet the new shelter director, Angela Lodridge, and tour the shelter facility. Lodridge has worked in the animal welfare industry since 1990, ten of those years as a veterinary technician, specializing in surgical care.

"I am looking forward to a new beginning for our shelter at Natchitoches Animal Control," Lodridge said. "We have

a wonderful program here and are committed to the betterment of our facility as well as those we serve."

Lodridge has asked the public to help the City control the pet population by having their pets spayed and neutered. During the open house, the public will have the chance to tour the shelter area and receive a free copy of City Ordinance related to animal control. For more information about pet owner responsibilities, pet ordinance, adoptions or animal complaints, please call the Animal Shelter at (318) 357-3885.

Cane River Creole National Historical Park to host two concerts in May



Cane River Creole NHP will be hosting two separate musical events on May 12 and 19.

On May 12 at 1pm, Sunpie and the Louisiana Sunspots will be performing at the Oakland Plantation entrance pavilion. The band features park rangers Bruce Barnes and Matt Hampsey from New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park.

This performance celebrates the release of New Orleans Jazz NHP's two double disc CD sets, "Songs from the Lower Mississippi Delta" and "Freedom is Coming: Songs of Freedom, Resistance, & the Underground Railroad". Every song has a tale to tell; from historic monologues and poetry set to music, to work songs, ring shouts, blues, and coded spirituals. Park rangers and researchers have provided song material, suggestions, and expertise in this collaborative effort to identify and interpret songs connected to

national parks and neighboring communities throughout the lower Mississippi delta region. Both CD sets will be for sale the day of the performance.

The third annual Cane River Music Festival will take place at Oakland Plantation the following Saturday on May 19. The festival will feature Goldman Thibodeaux & the Lawtell Playboys, Hezekiah Early & Lil' Poochie, Buddy Flett, and Doc Couty & the Natchitoches All Stars.

The performers will showcase the various musical genres that have made Louisiana famous including: Creole LaLa, Blues, Jazz, and R&B.

Festival goers are encouraged to bring picnic lunches, umbrellas, blankets, and folding chairs. The event will begin at 3pm.

For more information call 318 356-8441 or visit our website at: <http://www.nps.gov/cari/>

Recreation Department announces summer programs

The City of Natchitoches Recreation and Parks Department has announced several programs available to the community this summer.

A City Park Fun Day will take place on Saturday, May 12 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Fun Day will include several games and activities including

inflatable bouncers, sack races, hula hoops and large coloring sheets. The event is free and open to the public.

The summer season means time for swimming. Recreational swimming begins in June at City Pool.

Recreational swim begins at the City Park Pool on June 4. Recreational swim times are available Mondays through Thursdays from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. The

cost to swim is 50 cents per person.

Garrett Spray Park, located on MLK Jr. Drive, will be open during the summer for use and is avail-



able for rental for summer groups, day-cares and parties. Call the Recreation Department for specific times and

prices. Swimming lessons will also be offered this summer in various sessions. Sessions begin June 4 and take place in three-week sessions. Sessions are held at either 8 a.m. or 9 a.m., Mondays through Fridays. Several levels of lessons are offered. Lessons are \$20 for a three-week session and \$17 for each additional child. Adult softball begins on June 4.

For information on these programs, call Recreation and Parks at 357-3891.

House numbering ordinance to take effect June 1

The Natchitoches Police Department is reminding the public a new ordinance will take effect on June 1.

The number assigned to each building shall be displayed either on the building or in the front yard in numerals not less than three inches in height and clearly visible to those people or vehicles pass-

ing on the street.

A fine not to exceed \$50 will be issued for the first offense. If the property remains in violation after 20 days, a second violation will occur, with a fine not to exceed \$200.

For more information on this ordinance, please call the Natchitoches Police Department at (318) 352-8101.

Summer Splash to be held May 15 *Free informational summer fair*

Looking for something for your child to do this summer?

If so, be sure to attend "Summer Splash 2012," a free informational fair designed to educate families about programs, activities and other events for children this summer.

Summer Splash will allow organizations, clubs and other groups to showcase educational, recreational and social youth programs that will take place in Natchitoches this summer.

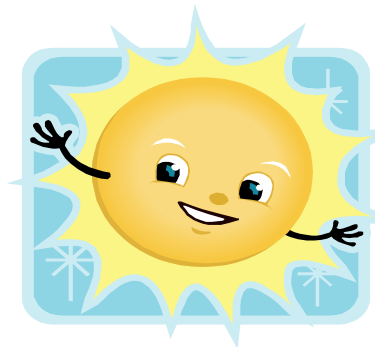
The informational fair will be held from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 15 at the Natchitoches Events Center located at 750 Second Street in the Historic

District.

The public is invited to attend and admission is free.

Local groups will distribute information and registration forms about various summer events

including vacation bible school, sports camps, art camps, and much



more.

Space is still available at no cost for those groups wanting to participate in Summer Splash.

For more information about Summer Splash or to reserve a booth, please contact the Natchitoches Main Street Office at 352-2746.

The City of Natchitoches will be closed on Monday, May 28 in observance of Memorial Day.

City of Natchitoches

**Oldest Permanent
Settlement in the
Louisiana Purchase**

**P.O. Box 37
700 Second Street
Natchitoches, La. 71458**

Phone: 318-352-2772

Fax: 318-357-3829

**E-mail:
cityhall@natchitochesla.gov**



**Congratulations to
the graduates of
2012!**

Green Market to host free fitness classes this summer

The Cane River Green Market (CRGM) will be offering residents a unique opportunity to get fit this spring and summer with a series of free fitness classes on market Saturdays.

Natchitoches' local farmer's market will take place every Saturday from 8 a.m.

to noon on the downtown riverbank in the Natchitoches Historic District from April 28 through July 28.

Each month will feature a different class:

- May - Free Zumba class taught by Kim Davis, the Zumba instructor at the Wellness, Recreation and Activity Center at Northwestern State University.
- June - Free "Flab to Fab" boot camp

taught by Jessica Salter-Shirley, an ACE certified personal trainer, lifestyle and

weight management consultant, and group fitness instructor.

- July - Free yoga class taught by Jessica Salter-Shirley, who is also a certified Yoga Fit instructor.

All classes will be offered from 8:30 -

9:30 a.m. at the stage on the riverbank. Classes are open to individuals of all ages. Children are welcome but must be accompanied by a parent or other adult. Participants are encouraged to bring their own water, towels, and mats. No RSVP is necessary, but community members can call the market office at [\(318\) 352-2746](tel:3183522746) (CRGM) for more information.



Upcoming holidays and important events

Every Saturday — Cane River Green Market from 8 a.m. to noon on the downtown riverbank.



May 13 — Mother's Day

May 14 — Natchitoches City Council meeting at 7 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.

May 15 — Summer Splash Informational Fair at the Natchitoches Events Center from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

May 16 — Open house of the City Animal Shelter at 4:30 p.m.

May 17 — Natchitoches Historic District Development Commission meeting at 10 a.m. at City Hall

May 18 — NCHS graduation at 7 p.m. at Prather Coliseum.

May 19 — Local Louisiana Bicentennial ceremony at 2 p.m. on the downtown riverbank stage

May 21 — Natchitoches Airport Commission meeting at 5 p.m. at the Natchitoches Regional Airport.

May 22 — St. Mary's High graduation at 7 p.m. in the St.



Mary's gymnasium.

May 25 — Jazz in the Park at Beau Jardin from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. featuring the Iridium Quartet.

May 26 — Fleur de Lis Arts and Crafts Show at the Natchitoches Events Center

May 28 — Memorial Day; City of Natchitoches closed.

May 29 — Natchitoches City Council meeting at 7 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.

June 1 — Inauguration ceremonies at 10 a.m. at the Natchitoches Events Center for Mayor-elect Lee Posey.